

ALS TREATMENT IN A MAJOR MEDICAL DISASTER

- I. AUTHORITY: *Health and Safety Code 1798.4: Whenever voice contact with a base hospital cannot be established and whenever a delay in care would jeopardize the life of the patient, the initiation of advance life support procedures shall be authorized by the written standing orders approved by the medical director of the local EMS Agency.*
- II. APPLICATION: This policy authorizes an Orange County emergency medical technician - paramedic (EMT-P) to provide advanced life support (ALS) treatment in a major medical incident as defined in the Fire Scope Incident Command System -- Multi-Casualty Branch.
- III. AUTHORIZATION: An EMT-P may, in the event of a major medical disaster, perform or monitor any emergency medical care treatment(s), procedure(s), or administer any other medication(s) within the scope of practice for which the EMT-P has been trained and accredited if, in the EMT-P's expert opinion, the patient would suffer potential loss of life or limb without implementation of said procedures or treatments.
- All patient treatment will be documented on the multi-casualty disaster/triage tag provided for each patient.

ITALICIZED TEXT IDENTIFIES QUOTATIONS FROM AN AUTHORITY OUTSIDE THE OCEMS AGENCY.